

**Approved Work Plan and Budget
of the
Los Alamos National Laboratory Oversight Committee
2004 Interim**

The Los Alamos national laboratory (LANL) oversight committee is composed of the following members:

Rep. Roberto "Bobby" J. Gonzales, co-chairman	Rep. Debbie A. Rodella
Sen. Phil A. Griego, co-chairman	Rep. Nick L. Salazar
Rep. Thomas A. Anderson	Sen. William E. Sharer

Advisory members are:

Rep. Ben Lujan	Sen. William H. Payne
Sen. Richard C. Martinez	Rep. Jeannette O. Wallace

Staff is Jonelle Maison.

The committee proposes to focus on the following topics this interim: the federal department of energy's (DOE's) short- and long-range plans for LANL and Sandia national laboratories; homeland security; educational programs provided by LANL and the effect of its need for a highly educated work force on the state's public schools; and the economic development opportunities available from technology transfer and the provision of services to LANL by small businesses. The committee's study will not duplicate efforts of the legislative education study committee or the economic and rural development and telecommunications committee because of its specific and limited focus on LANL. The co-chairmen of the LANL oversight committee each serve on one of those other committees and will apprise those committees as warranted.

The DOE's decision to request proposals for LANL management may have a direct impact on the state and northern New Mexico communities. The committee will discuss the department's short- and long-range plans for both of the state's national laboratories and the progress of its RFP for management of LANL.

Homeland security is of vital interest to New Mexico, with two national laboratories, several military bases and radioactive and hazardous material stockpiles. In addition to looking at what LANL is doing to ensure the safety of laboratory assets, the committee will hear testimony on LANL's development of homeland security strategies and tools for application in other locations.

Most of the high-paying jobs at LANL require employees with advanced degrees, particularly in science and engineering. There has been much discussion over the years concerning how prepared New Mexico residents are for lab employment. LANL has developed several educational programs to help New Mexico teachers and public school students, and the

committee will look at the success of those programs. Also of interest are the cooperative agreements between LANL and state universities. The lab now has memoranda of understanding (MOU) with New Mexico highlands university, New Mexico state university and the university of New Mexico, and expects to sign one with the New Mexico institute of mining and technology soon. The committee will consider the near-term and future academic and economic effects of these MOUs. In addition, the committee will consider what the state, including the legislature, public education department, commission on higher education and public and post-secondary schools, can do to improve New Mexico residents' job-readiness for LANL employment. As part of its focus on education, the committee will consider: the utility of LANL and Sandia employment forecasts in post-secondary educational planning; and LANL's work-study program and its curriculum collaboration with northern New Mexico community college and other post-secondary educational institutions.

There is a natural segue from education to economic development, and the committee proposes a two-pronged inquiry: (1) what is the LANL procurement process for small contractors; and (2) what are the opportunities for technology transfer of LANL research. Since technology transfer from LANL has been occurring for years, the committee will look at how successful New Mexico has been in attracting and keeping technology transfer entrepreneurs in the state.

The committee received legislative council approval for per diem and mileage for members to meet with their LANL oversight counterparts from California when that committee meets in New Mexico. The committee does not yet have dates for when the California committee will be in Santa Fe/Los Alamos.

Meeting Schedule and Budget

The following meeting schedule is tentative.

Budget for Voting Members:

June 4 meeting (Santa Fe)	\$1,378	
July 12 meeting (Santa Fe)	1,378	
August 9 meeting (Santa Fe)	1,378	
September 17 meeting (Los Alamos)		1,438
October 15 meeting (Santa Fe)	1,378	
November meeting TBA	<u>2,524</u>	
TOTAL	\$9,474*	

*Budget does not include \$4,130 for advisory members or per diem and mileage for members to meet with the California delegation.